

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A system for identifying a computer virus in a response ~~sent~~ received in reply to a user request ~~for content~~, the system comprising:

a user input device that generates a user request ~~for content~~ including ~~an address of a target server and~~ a protocol field;

a network component that executes a redirection program, the redirection program including a scan module that receives the user request ~~for content~~ before the request is processed for transmission to either the a target server or to a destination server and is capable of identifying the request as a request for content by scanning the protocol field and identifying a protocol that is only for requesting and retrieving content and the redirection program also including a proxy module that modifies the request ~~for content~~ by adding a redirection destination header to the request so that it is redirected to a proxy server if the protocol is only for requesting and retrieving content, and wherein the proxy module leaves the user request unaltered if the protocol is not only for requesting and retrieving content, such that no redirection destination header is added and the user request is forwarded for processing by a gateway device and for transmission to the destination server;

a network that routes the request ~~for content~~ to the proxy server; and

the proxy server that receives user-defined configuration data during a negotiation phase of establishing a connection between the proxy module and proxy server, receives the request ~~for content~~, removes the redirection destination header, forwards the request to the target server, and receives a response from the target server, the proxy server having a decoding module for decoding the response a content scanning module to scan a decoded response and a user-defined configuration data scanning module to apply user-defined configuration data to the decoded response and a return address appending module.

2. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1 wherein the proxy server identifies the computer virus in the response and processes the response according to defined parameters.

3. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 2, wherein the proxy server sends at least a portion of the response to the user, the portion of the response not including the computer virus.
4. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 2, wherein the proxy server sends a notification message back to the user, the notification message containing data related to the computer virus.
5. (Original) The system of claim 1, further comprising:
a user preference module that receives user-defined parameters utilized by the proxy server when processing the response.
6. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the proxy module redirects the request to the proxy server by modifying the request.
7. (Original) The system of claim 6, wherein the proxy module modifies the request by adding a redirection destination header to the request.
8. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the proxy server further quarantines the computer virus.
9. (Previously Cancelled)
10. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the defined parameters are proxy server default parameters.

11. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the defined parameters are user-defined parameters.
12. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the defined parameters are a combination of user-defined parameters and proxy server default parameters.
13. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein the scan module and the proxy module are located in ~~a~~ the network gateway device.
14. (Cancelled)
15. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the network gateway device further comprises a firewall and a router.

16. (Currently Amended) A method for identifying undesirable content in responses **sent received** in reply to a user request ~~for content~~, the method comprising:

receiving, at a redirection program executing on a network computing device, input from a user computer including at least one request ~~for content addressed to a target server~~, the request having ~~an address of said target server and~~ a protocol field;

before the request is transmitted on a network, scanning at a scan module in the redirection program the protocol field of the request ~~for content~~ to determine whether a protocol of the request is only for requesting and retrieving content;

if the protocol of the request ~~for content~~ is only for requesting and retrieving content, at a proxy module in the redirection program, modifying the request by adding a redirection destination header to the request, thereby redirecting the request to a proxy server from where the user request is transmitted to a target server;

if the protocol of the request is not only for requesting and retrieving content, at the proxy module in the redirection program, passing the request ~~for content~~ unaltered such that the request ~~for content~~ bypasses the proxy server and is processed by a gateway network device and is transmitted to a destination server;

receiving the request ~~for content~~ at the proxy server;

receiving user-defined configuration data at the proxy server during a negotiation phase of establishing a connection between the proxy module and proxy server;

removing the redirection destination header from the request at the proxy server;

sending the request ~~for content~~ from the proxy server to the target server for generation of a response;

receiving ~~the a~~ response from the target server at the proxy server;

decoding the response at the proxy server;

scanning the decoded response for a computer virus, junk e-mail, or pornographic content at the proxy server;

if a computer virus, junk e-mail, or pornographic content is detected, processing the decoded response at the proxy server according to the user-defined configuration data, re-encoding the response and appending a return address so that the response is sent to the user computer; and

if a computer virus, junk e-mail, or pornographic content is not detected, re-encoding the response and appending the return address so that the response is sent to the user computer.

17. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 16, further comprising:
identifying the undesirable content in the response;
modifying the response to remove the undesirable content; and
sending the modified response from the proxy server to the user computer.
18. (Previously Cancelled)
19. (Cancelled)
20. (Cancelled)
21. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 16, wherein the request ~~for content~~ is redirected to the proxy server by establishing a session with the proxy server.
22. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 16, further comprising:
receiving input of at least one user-defined parameter at the proxy module which stores the parameter in a database and may forward to the proxy server during negotiation phase of the connection with the proxy server.
23. (Original) The method of claim 22, wherein the user-defined parameter is input using a browser application.
24. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 22, wherein the user-defined parameter is sent to the proxy server by modifying the request ~~for content~~.
25. (Original) The method of claim 22, wherein the user-defined parameter is sent to the proxy server during a session established with the proxy server.

26.-35. (Previously Cancelled)

36. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 16 further comprising:
storing the user-defined configuration data at the proxy module.

37. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 16 further comprising:
storing the user-defined configuration data at the proxy server.

38. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 16 further comprising:
 retrieving the previously stored user-defined configuration data at the proxy server when
processing the decoded response.